

Dr. Schmitzer started his medical practice along with Dr. Mark Radbill. As their practice grew, they saw the need to expand in order to better serve our community. Along with other individuals, Drs. Schmitzer and Radbill helped establish the Delaware Valley Medical Center. Eventually, the organization joined Aria and is now known as Aria Health-Bucks County.

Although an esteemed medical practitioner, the hallmark of Dr. Schmitzer's career was his effort to form the Warminster Chapter of Gilda's Club. Dr. Schmitzer was among the 12 original founders and deemed the driving force. Named after comedian Gilda Radner who died from ovarian cancer in 1989, the organization provides emotional and social support for people living with cancer and the families that love them. They have been particularly attentive to the needs of children impacted by family members battling this horrible disease.

On behalf of the constituents of Pennsylvania's 8th Congressional District, I offer Dr. Schmitzer my gratitude for a career marked with selfless dedication and compassion for our friends, neighbors and loved ones. Thank you, Dr. Schmitzer.

GAETANO ARMANDO FORMICA

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2014

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Gaetano Armando Formica who selflessly served as a U.S. Army soldier during World War II and is celebrating his 100th birthday. His family and friends will join together this Sunday to celebrate and wish him continued health, happiness, and prosperity.

Gaetano Armando Formica, also known as Al, was born September 4, 1914. Al worked in the family bakery and then went on to work for Federal Leather. With his experience there, Al eventually went on to open his own shop where he recovered chairs and furniture.

Al married his wife Anna in 1943. Soon thereafter, he was drafted into the Army and served in several European countries during World War II. His services in World War II deserve special recognition.

Al was on Utah Beach, the westernmost part of the Allied landing beach on D-Day, the Invasion of Normandy. He also fought in the Battle of the Bulge toward the end of World War II.

Al helped to liberate the Buchenwald Concentration Camp. It was one of the first and largest concentration camps on German soil where over 55,000 innocent souls lost their lives. Today, the remains of Buchenwald serve as a memorial and permanent exhibition and museum.

Al returned to civilian life after being injured during the war. For many years, he served as commander in the Disabled American Veterans Post 38. He was also the Grand Marshal in the Memorial Parade in 2009.

Al and his wife Anna have been blessed with three children, Armand, Gary, and Roberta as well as six grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren. Sadly, his son Gary was killed in 1970 while serving his nation in the Vietnam War. Truly the Formica family has given of itself in service of our great nation.

Al and Anna currently reside in Bloomfield, NJ. Al keeps busy with gardening work, playing the guitar, and cooking. He also takes care of Anna who is wheelchair bound.

As his friend, I am very pleased to have the great fortune of being able to honor such a marvelous member of our community. I sincerely wish Mr. Gaetano Armando Formica and his entire family the best.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to recognizing and commemorating the services of individuals like Mr. Gaetano Armando Formica.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, Mr. Formica's family, friends, and all those whose lives he has touched, and me, in recognizing Gaetano Armando Formica for one hundred years of life dedicated to family and nation.

HONORING FRANCHESTER
COLEMAN EASON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a self-motivated leader and innovator of the community, Mrs. Franchester Coleman Eason, who is the owner of Franchester's Salon.

Franchester was born January 3, 1969 to the late Eddie and Henrietta Coleman. She along with her 13 siblings was raised south of Rolling Fork, MS in a small rural community called Edgermount. Franchester is a graduate of Rolling Fork High School and holds an AA degree from Hinds Community College in the field of Cosmetology. She has worked as a cosmetologist since earning a license from the MS State Board of Cosmetology in 1990.

Franchester began her career working for the late Minnie Pearl Brown at the Rolling Fork Beauty Charm. After working at Rolling Fork Beauty Charm for several years Franchester decided to work for Lee's Hair Care, for the late Mrs. Letha Lee. Upon the passing of Mrs. Lee, Franchester managed the shop as her own for many years. In 2009 she and her husband, Frank, were blessed with the opportunity to buy the business. The beauty shop is now called Franchester's Salon and is located at 153 North 2nd Street; opens at 9:00 a.m. until 7:00 p.m., Tuesday thru Friday. Franchester's Salon offers a wide variety of hair care techniques.

Franchester is a member of the National Beautician Association. She is also a member of Mt. Ollie M. B. Church in Edgermount.

Franchester and her husband, Frank, are the proud parents of Catina, Mariesha, Jeremy and Frank III.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mrs. Franchester Coleman Eason for giving back to the community in which she was born and reared.

HONORING VINCE CALLAHAN

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 12, 2014

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Virginia Delegate Vincent F. Callahan, Jr., who passed away on September 20th, 2014, at the Virginia Hospital Center in Arlington, Virginia.

Vince represented Virginia's 34th District in the Virginia General Assembly for nearly four decades. During his tenure on the Appropriations Committee, he worked tirelessly on important regional projects for his constituents in McLean and Arlington. He was always willing to work across the aisle to find compromise and get things done.

Vince's many legislative accomplishments include supporting the growth of George Mason University and the Dulles Corridor, as well as securing state funds for public spaces, like Wolf Trap. The northern Virginia we know today would not exist if it were not for Vince and his outstanding statesmanship in the Virginia General Assembly. The region owes him a debt of gratitude for his faithful and effective service.

Vince was a man of strong convictions and the highest moral character. He was a true Virginia gentleman, family man and a loyal friend; he will be sorely missed by his family, friends and community. Vince is survived by his wife Yvonne, eight children, 22 grandchildren and two great-grandchildren.

I respectfully submit Vince's obituary from The Fairfax Times and ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Vince's life and achievements.

[From FairfaxTimes.com, Sept. 26, 2014]

CALLAHAN'S LEGACY BURNS BRIGHT

Fairfax County lost one of its true statesmen—and untold amounts of institutional knowledge—when longtime state legislator Vince Callahan died last Saturday from complications related to West Nile virus.

Callahan, who represented McLean in the Virginia House of Delegates from 1967 to 2008, will best be remembered as someone who cared deeply about Northern Virginia and spent more than half his life fighting for his district, his constituents and for Virginia.

It's hard to travel through Fairfax County today and not see Callahan's fingerprints on many key institutions and roadways. He was critical in drumming up dollars and support for George Mason University and Northern Virginia Community College; many Fairfax residents could locate either school on a map. He championed Wolf Trap National Park for the Performing Arts when many others viewed the project as a waste of money and land. He was instrumental in establishing Georgetown Pike as a scenic byway, fending off intense pressure to four-lane the road through Great Falls and parts of McLean.

He also played a lead role in establishing the Dulles Toll Road, erecting sound walls along Interstate 495 and sparking commercial development on the Dulles corridor.

Callahan's list of accomplishments goes on and on, fueled mostly by a calm, inclusive leadership style rarely seen in today's General Assembly.

In an era of partisan bickering and political gamesmanship, Callahan built his career on putting people ahead of party and solving old problems rather than creating new ones.